

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 00048 101537Z

44

ACTION PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 AF-05 NEA-05 VOE-00 /018 W
----- 064230

R 101510Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5131

UNCLAS VALLETTA 0048

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPAS, LY

SUBJ: ARABIC IN U.S. PASSPORTS

REF: A. STATE 220555; B. VALLETTA 2204

1. PARA 2 OF REF B REPORTED OUR ESTIMATE OF TIME REQUIRED TO OBTAIN ARABIC TRANSLATION AND LIBYAN VISA AS REQUESTED BY REF A. WE HAVE NOW LEARNED FROM LIBYAN EMBASSY THAT ALL PERSONS APPLYING FOR LIBYAN VISA REQUIRE TRANSLATION, INCLUDING OIL COMPANY EMPLOYEES WHO PREVIOUSLY EXEMPTED. HOWEVER, IN ALL CASES VISAS CAN NOW BE ISSUED THE DAY AFTER APPLICATION. THE ARABIC TRANSLATION PROCEDURE CAN STILL CONCEIVABLY BE ACCOMPLISHED IN ONE DAY, BUT WILL USUALLY TAKE TWO DAYS, SINCE TWO OF OUR THREE TRANSLATORS NOW REQUIRE THAT PERSONS TELEPHONE IN ADVANCE FOR AN APPOINTMENT. THEREFORE A REALISTIC ESTIMATE FOR THE ENTIRE PROCESS OF OBTAINING TRANSLATION AND VISA WOULD BE THREE WORKING DAYS.

2. TRANSLATION PROCEDURE HAS THUS FAR BEEN WORKING VERY WELL. TO DATE 28 PERSONS HAVE OBTAINED TRANSLATIONS, AND WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF ANY SERIOUS INCONVENIENCE SINCE PROCEDURE IMPLEMENTED. TUCKER

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